

CASTRO FREES 3 CIA AGENTS

Operatives Were Among 21
Americans Released

CPYRGHT

Washington, April 24 (AP)—Three

Central Intelligence agents were among the 21 American prisoners whom Fidel Castro swapped for four of his followers held in this country, congressional sources said today.

They said the Cuban Prime Minister was aware that some of the men he was turning loose were working for the CIA. But it was not clear whether he was certain of their identities.

The CIA declined to comment on the report, as did other Government officials.

But qualified informants indicated that the secret agents were three men who figured in a sensational D.D. case in which the Cubans accused them of espionage. The trio, all of whom were on the list of prisoners returned this week, are Daniel L. Carswell, of Rochester, N.Y.; Eustace H. Danbrunt, of Baltimore and Edward K. Taransky, of New York.

Spelling Variation

The names used by the Castro Government in 1960, however, had a spelling variation except for Carswell. The other two were listed as Eustace Dan Brunet and Edward K. Taranske.

Scripps-Howard Newspapers, in reporting earlier that CIA men were among the prisoners exchanged, said Castro didn't necessarily know who they were. But Newhouse newspapers' Advertising News Service said he was aware that one of them was Carswell, supposedly an engineer but really a CIA undercover agent.

The trio was accused by Cuba in 1960 of espionage directed against the New China News Agency office. The Cuban Government said they were wire tapping experts and had tapped the wires of the agency.

In connection with the case, Cuban authorities held briefly, then expelled, a United States Embassy employee, Mrs. Marjorie A. Lennox, secretary to the commercial attache. The Cubans said the three worked in her apartment and in another apartment in the building where she lived.

CPYRGHT

Whereabouts Unknown

Carswell, Danbrunt and Taransky all left Miami Fla., yesterday without telling the Red Cross, which was helping the refugees, where they were going.

Members of Congress familiar with the situation said James B. Donovan, New York attorney, who arranged the swap with Castro, was acting under United States Government orders in making the arrangement he did. In all, 27 men were released by Havana, but only 21 returned to this country.

The Scripps-Howard dispatch said the United States agreed to the unusual exchange primarily to free the captured agents held in Castro dungeons with American adventurers and soldiers of fortune.

It was reported that Castro was especially anxious to gain the release of Francisco Molina Del

Rio, 31, a former Castro crony and bodyguard. He was serving a sentence of twenty years to life in New York for killing a 9-year-old girl during a brawl in New York between Castro Cubans and refugee Cubans.

Molina and three alleged saboteurs awaiting trial for plotting to blow up defense installations were flown from Florida to Havana yesterday.

Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York commuted Molina's sentence with the understanding that he never come back to the United States. The Governor said he did so because the Federal Government had informed him it was "necessary in the national interest."

The Justice Department obtained dismissal of charges against two other Cuban nationals and a Cuban-American accused of sabotage conspiracy with the understanding that they leave the country immediately. Robert F. Kennedy, Attorney General, said the action was "deemed to be in the national interest."

FOIAb3b